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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton.

=====

FOR THE YEAR 1962.



Rural District of South Molton.

Telephone No.
South Molton 17 & 165.

Public Health Department,
8, East Street,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1962.

E. WILLIAMS
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L. W. EVES
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector

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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton, for the year 1962.

Your Obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of :—

Part-time Officers—

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

G. E. MOGFORD, M.A.P.H.I.,

G. T. HILL, M.A.P.H.I.,
Additional Public Health Inspectors.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)						8,400
Rateable Value as at 1.4.63	...	...	...	...	...	£122,586
Product of a Penny Rate (Year 1962/63)	...	...	...	...	...	£211
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 1.4.1963)						2,784
Number of Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	364
Extracts from Vital Statistics—						
Births: Comparability Factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.15
Deaths: ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,						0.93

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—

Number	...	...	...	...	...	135
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	16.07

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births

3.7

Still Births—

Number	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	21.73

Total Live and Still Births

138

Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 Year) 3

Infant Mortality Rates—

 Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births 22.22

 Legit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legit. Live Births 23.07

 Illegit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegit. Live Births Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 Total Live Births) 22.22

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births) 14.81

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and Deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births) 36.23

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)—

 Number of Deaths Nil

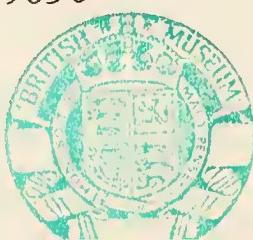
 Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births Nil

Deaths 93

Death Rate per 1,000 population 11.07

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1951	9207	124	117
1952	9141	137	108
1953	9063	133	94
1954	9050	116	89
1955	9030	115	95



1956	8920	118	104
1957	8850	141	84
1958	8840	125	95
1959	8800	116	113
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93

Census Figures—1961

Males	Females	Total
4026	3936	7962

Estimated figure mid-year was 8220

BIRTHS

During the year there were 135 live births in the Rural area as compared with 126 in 1961. There were 64 male and 71 female births. Of the 135 births—39 were home confinements.

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	60	70	130
Illegitimate	4	1	5
			135
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	16.07
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)			18.48

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	0.35
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	...		21.73

DEATHS

During the year there were 93 deaths as compared with 98 in 1961.

There were 51 male and 42 female deaths.

Death Rate per 1,000 population 11.07

Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor) 10.30

The following table gives Causes of Death:—

	M.	F.	Total
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	...	0	1
„ „ —Lung, Bronchus	...	2	3
„ „ —Breast	...	0	1
„ „ —Uterus	...	0	2

Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	6	2	8
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	8	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	7	5	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	0	1
Other Heart Disease	11	10	21
Other Circulatory Disease	3	2	5
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	0	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	4	3	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	0	0
All other accidents	1	3	4
Suicide	1	0	1
Homicide and Operations of War	1	0	1
Total ...	51	42	93

Deaths in age groups:—

Under 4 weeks ...	3	45 — 64 years ...	17
4 weeks—1 year ...	0	65 — 74 „ „ ...	28
1 — 4 years ...	0	75 + „ „ ...	40
5 — 14 „ „	0		—
15 — 24 „ „	1		93
25 — 44 „ „	4		—

Infant Mortality Rate

During the year three male infants died under the age of 1 year. There were no illegitimate infant deaths under age of 1 year.

Causes of Death

Male—1 hr.	Cerebral anoxia Placental insufficiency Post maturity.
Male—21 hrs.	Intracraenial haemorrhage Anoxia Prematurity.
Male—3 weeks.	Asphyxia. Aspirated vomit. Acute gastro-enteritis.
Infant Mortality Rate ...	... ... ... 22.22

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths

There were 15 deaths due to cancer during the year as compared with 16 for the previous year. There were 3 deaths due to Lung Cancer, one of which was a female. This was one less than the previous year.

	M.	F.	Total
Stomach Cancer ...	0	1	1
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	2	1	3
Breast Cancer ...	0	1	1
Other Cancer ...	6	4	10
			—
			15

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 11 infectious notifications were received and consisted of: 5 cases of Scarlet Fever; 3 of Whooping Cough; 1 Measles; 1 Meningococeal Meningitis, which was not confirmed; and one case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were no instances of food poisoning reported, or cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

Mass Radiography

The mass radiography unit paid a visit to Witheridge and Chulmleigh during the year; the result of the survey is as follows:—

Witheridge

Number examined: Male 91; Female 95; Total 186.

Findings: A. Pulmonary Tuberculosis

(1) Newly discovered significant cases			
(a) Requiring treatment ...	...	...	Nil
(b) Requiring further observation			1
(2) Healed cases. No further action ...			8
(3) Previously known cases ...	...	...	Nil
B. Other conditions	...	...	8

Chulmleigh

Number examined: Male 88; Female 100; Total 188.

Findings: A. Pulmonary Tuberculosis

(1) Newly discovered significant cases			Nil
(2) Healed cases. No further action ...			1
(3) Previously known cases	Nil

B. Other conditions	6
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The following table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register between 1st January and 31st December, 1962.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1st January, 1962 ...	12	17	29	7	9	16
31st December, 1962 ...	9	15	24	7	7	14

FOOD POISONING

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the trunk main was extended from Brayford to North Molton, Jubilee Inn, and joined up with the reservoir at Bickham Moor. From this main branches are to be taken to Blackerton Cross, Oldways End and East Anstey. Another branch is to be laid to Yeo Mill and West Anstey. Branch mains are also in progress of being laid to Rose Ash, Knowstone and East Knowstone.

Sixty-seven dwellings, twenty farms, one Council and one private school, were connected to the mains water during the year.

I am grateful to Mr. A. S. Bateman, Chief Engineer to the North Devon Water Board, for the above information.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (SECTION 4)

One case was dealt with under this Act during the year. This was an elderly lady living alone and having no close relations. The house was insanitary and very dilapidated and she had become weak and frail through lack of adequate and proper nourishment. She had been approached by her own Doctor and by the Welfare Service regarding a move to a County Welfare Home but had declined the offer. She was eventually moved under a Compulsory Order and has settled in her new home satisfactorily.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

Hawley Hospital, situated in the Borough of Barnstaple, has 28 beds.

Maternity Cases

There is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, available for maternity cases of doubt and difficulty.

Three beds are also set aside for maternity cases in the South Molton and District Cottage Hospital.

The General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is at "Highfield," Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital which is situated just outside the Borough of Bideford, and is well equipped in every way for the treatment of Infectious Diseases; there are 20 beds available in cubicles for Infectious cases.

Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital, to which cases of Smallpox will be sent, is at Upton Pine. Telephone to Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, 67158, and this is the same number for the ambulance.

General

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in the Borough of South Molton, serves this area. There are 9 beds for general and maternity cases. The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

In South Molton there are also chronic sick patients at Beech House, but no further admissions are being made.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

CHEST CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
Thursday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.	
Friday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.	A.P. Refills

V.D.CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Times and days are as below for the sessions:—

FEMALES—Monday 4.00 p.m. Thursday 4.30 p.m.
MALES— Monday 5.15 p.m. Thursday 5.45 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 2 District Nurse Midwives in the area.

Laboratory Facilities

The main Laboratory is situated at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out. The service is extremely valuable and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75, Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

Infant Welfare Centre

Held Thursday afternoons between 2 and 4.30 p.m. at 99, East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 99, East Street.

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The districts served are South Molton Borough and South Molton Rural District. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the Hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND
SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA**

For the Year ended 31st December, 1962.

8, EAST STREET,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1962.

During the year 1,760 visits and inspections were made including:—

PUBLIC HEALTH—

Byelaws	...	...	...	...	203
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	5
Disinfections and Disinfestations				...	2
Drains inspected and tested	...	...	...	...	141
General	...	...	...	...	14
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	24
Refuse Collection and Disposal				...	14
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	153
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	51
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	69
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS	...	...	...	...	48
FOOD AND DRUGS—General	...	...	...	...	5
	Meat and Food Inspection	...			300
FACTORIES—With Power	...	...	...	...	1
	Without Power	...	...	...	13
HOUSING—Slum Clearance	...	...	...	...	18
	Council Houses in Course of Erection				
	Housing Sites and Council House				
	Supervision, etc.	...	...	...	68
	Improvement Grants	...	...	...	178
PETROLEUM REGULATIONS	...	...	...	...	15
INTERVIEWS—Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	58
MISCELLANEOUS AND MEETINGS	...	...	...	...	128
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	...	...	...	...	9

1,760

WATER

PARISH	No. of Houses supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipes on Public Mains			Estimated Population so served
			No. of Houses supplied by Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipes on Public Mains	
Anstey East	3	11	—	—	—	—
Bishopsnympton	105	280	1	—	—	2
Buckland East	6	21	—	—	—	—
Buckland West	46	106	—	—	—	—
Burrington	51	163	—	—	—	—
Charles (Brayford)	36	119	—	—	—	—
Chittlehamholt	49	105	—	—	—	—
Chittlehampton	156	470	—	—	—	—
Cheldon	1	4	—	—	—	—
Chulmleigh	285	816	4	—	—	14
Filleigh	28	98	—	—	—	—
Georgenympton	32	110	—	—	—	—
Kingsnympton	76	250	1	—	—	3
Knowstone	7	23	—	—	—	—
Mariansleigh	53	135	—	—	—	—
Meshaw	24	59	—	—	—	—
North Molton	214	613	4	—	—	14
Queensnympton	4	14	—	—	—	—
Rackenford	48	164	—	—	—	—
Romansleigh	18	60	—	—	—	—
Rose Ash	16	51	—	—	—	—
Satterleigh and Warkleigh	14	45	—	—	—	—
Witheridge	196	540	12	—	—	43
Worlington East	63	180	—	—	—	—

47 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shown :—

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory ...	... ... —	30
Unsatisfactory ...	... ... —	17

26 Bacteriological Samples were taken of Public Supplies with the following results :—

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
25	1

The Public Supply at North Molton, where an unsatisfactory sample was obtained, was found to be satisfactory on taking a repeat sample following notification to the Water Board.

Where the Private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory, informal action was taken to have the matters remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Georgenympton sewerage scheme was completed in December.

Instructions were given to the Consulting Engineers to prepare detailed plans and specifications for the Kingsnympton Sewerage Scheme. Some detail work was carried out by the Consultants for Meshaw, Romansleigh and Burrington Sewerage Schemes and for the enlargement of the disposal works at Witheridge.

HOUSING

During the year 38 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 10 under the Discretionary Grant Scheme.

Twelve private houses were built during the year, and sixteen Council bungalows were under construction at the end of the year.

FOODS AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business, is:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	1
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	2
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	0
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	0
Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	...	39	
Guest Houses	...	...	...	...	4
Public Houses, Hotels	...	...	...	...	25
Dairies	...	...	...	...	4

(b) Eight premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Twenty-eight premises are registered for the sale and storage intended for sale of ice-cream.

Four premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1960

Five visits of inspection were made to food premises. Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The three licenced slaughterhouses continued in regular use during the year, all of them being satisfactorily maintained. All meat killed was inspected and it was necessary to condemn 8 cwt. 0 qtrs. 20 lbs. of carcase meat and 8 cwt. 1 qtr. 24 lbs. of offal.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

No action was necessary under the above-mentioned acts during the year.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN
WHOLE OR IN PART**

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	387	34	2,670	880	Nil
Number Inspected	387	34	2,670	880	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	8	6	1	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ } was condemned	34	Nil	27	78	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected } affected with disease other than tubercu- lousis and cysticerci	8.79%	23.52%	1.24%	8.98%	N.A.
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ } was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	19	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected } affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	2.16%	N.A.
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ } was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration }	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



